

## NEW CHIEF OF STAFF



*Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi*

**Gen. John Jumper (left) passes the Chief of Staff Guidon to Gen. T. Michael Moseley during a ceremony Sept. 2. General Jumper served in the Air Force for 39 years. General Moseley served as vice chief of staff of the Air Force before being sworn in as the 18th Air Force chief of staff. (See story on page 4)**

## Volunteers still needed for San Antonio shelters

**By Kendahl Johnson**  
*Discovery editor*

More than 10,000 victims of Hurricane Katrina have been evacuated to various shelters around San Antonio. While countless people have donated time, money and items to help these evacuees, there is still a great need for volunteers to assist in the shelters.

Lucy Belles, director of the Brooks Family Support Center, has been heavily involved in collecting donations to be delivered to shelters around the community. She has set up a room at the FSC, Bldg. 537, to collect donated items. Through Tuesday, her office will collect food, clothing, shoes, blankets, sheets, towels and other miscellaneous items.

“I want to thank all the volunteers and folks who have donated items to support the evacuees,” Ms. Belles said. “After visiting KellyUSA, I was told they have critical shortage of dental products, African-American hair products and antibacterial products.”

Other members of the Brooks community have also been involved in the volunteer efforts at the shelters. Master Sgt. Laurie Olerich, first sergeant for the Mission Support Group and various 311th Human Systems Wing agencies, has jumped in head first.

Sergeant Olerich’s initial efforts were helping five families evacuated to Brooks. With the help of other first sergeants, she was able to put together boxes of food, snacks, games and activities for the families. “We really went all out,” she said. “I know they all were extremely grateful and so appreciative.”

Her latest effort, which she calls her “pet project,” is to organize volunteers to cook for the 10,000 evacuees. “A lot people wanted to

**See Volunteers still needed/Page 15**

## Small base offers big support

**By Larry Farlow**  
*311th Human System Wing/ Dir. of Public Affairs*

In support of the Air Force’s primary focus of saving and sustaining lives and assisting Federal Emergency Management Agency in recovery operations from Hurricane Katrina, small teams of doctors, medical technicians, environmental engineers and epidemiologists from the 311th Human Systems Wing headed east from Brooks City-Base in San Antonio late Sept. 2.

Public Health specialists from the Air Force Institute for Operational Health conducted environmental and health surveillance and risk analysis to assist in relief efforts following Hurricane Katrina.

Led by Col. (Dr.) James Neville, the five person epidemiological rapid response team flew out of Lackland Air Force Base on a C-130 transport, loaded with all of their specialized equipment, and landed at the New Orleans International Airport.

The team’s mission is to protect human health and safety of civilian and military personnel by looking for infectious disease by testing water, air and soil for contamination and minimize risk. It is expected that as time passes, the health risks in New Orleans will become more and more acute. The team, which is trained to respond to crisis situations all over the world, is prepared to stay on scene as long as they are needed.

Col. (Dr.) Richard Bachmann, commander of the U.S. School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks, deployed to Tyndall Air Force Base to take command of the Air Force Medical Forces. In that role, he directs aeromedical missions in the entire gulf region hit by Hurricane Katrina. Flight doctors, nurses and technicians working on the ground and in the air have joined with other medical forces to care for sick and injured civilians.

Because of their quick response, hundreds of our fellow Americans were air-



*Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.*

**Family Support Center staff members sort through donations made to help the Hurricane Katrina victims that have been evacuated to Brooks City-Base and Kelly USA.**

lifted to hospitals around the United States where they could get state-of-the-art medical care in modern facilities. Many were transported by the Air Force to San Antonio. As of Tuesday, medics had treated 5,512 injured and sick and aeromedical personnel evacuated 2,552 patients to other locations.

While troops deployed, others here at home were supporting displaced Air Force personnel from Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Miss., who needed shelter, food and support.

Under the leadership of Command Chief Master Sgt. Reggie Williams, the

**See Big support/Page 15**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



**Col. Laura Alvarado — Page 9**



**Hurricane relief efforts — pgs. 14-15**



**Academy rallies to win — Page 18**





The **Discovery** is published by **Prime Time Inc.**, a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks City-Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the **Discovery** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or **Prime Time Corp.** of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks City-Base. Material for the **Discovery** should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks City-Base, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by email to **Kendahl.Johnson@brooks.af.mil** or to **Discovery@brooks.af.mil**.

The **Discovery** is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

#### Discovery advertising

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the **Discovery**, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to **Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227**.

#### Discovery Editorial Staff:

**Eric Stephens**

311th Human Systems Wing Director

**Larry Farlow**

Director of Public Affairs

**Kendahl Johnson**

Editor — [kendahl.johnson@brooks.af.mil](mailto:kendahl.johnson@brooks.af.mil)

**Rudy Purificato**

Chief Writer — [rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil](mailto:rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil)

**Elizabeth Castillo**

Staff Writer — [elizabeth.castillo@brooks.af.mil](mailto:elizabeth.castillo@brooks.af.mil)

**Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder**

**Tech. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.**

**Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart**

Photographers

Discovery logo by Arlene Schirmer



**Sylvia Black**, Publisher  
**Pia Goodman**, Prod. Mgr.  
**Pat McCain**, Classified Mgr.  
**Diane Bohl**, Sales Manager  
**Sherry Snoga**, Account Exec.  
**Brandy Davis**, Account Exec.

#### Advertising

(210) 675-4500

FAX:

(210) 675-4577

E-mail:

[sblack@txdirect.net](mailto:sblack@txdirect.net)



Newspapers

#### Community Newspapers:

North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder

Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter

The Herald

#### Military Newspapers:

Fort Sam Houston News Leader

Lackland Talespinner — Kelly USA Observer

Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread

Brooks Discovery

#### Specialty Publications:

Daily Commercial Recorder — Que Pasa!

S.A.Kids

#### Graphics & Printing Services:

Prime Time Graphics

Christopher Press (Web printing)

**William A. Johnson**

President

**Gregg R. Rosenfield**

Senior Vice President Sales

and Marketing

## My job is to lead, support, work with and for you

By **Gen. Bruce Carlson**

Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

As I accepted responsibility for leading Air Force Materiel Command, I saw with fresh insight the unique character of this diverse command. The AFMC mission is huge, and the successes the people of this command have achieved in carrying out that mission are remarkable. Your example inspires me.

Looking from the outside at AFMC's core responsibilities and the work you've done over the past two years, I also must pay tribute to Gen. Speedy Martin. Because of his vision, I see an organization that became more focused on its core missions, brought unity of command and effort to its management structure, realigned its headquarters to stimulate on-time, on-cost production, reorganized its field units to the standard Air Force wing, group and squadron structure, used manpower standards to build new units in support of acquisition and sustainment, and set new world-class standards for delivery of refurbished and repaired aircraft from its depots. We're

going to continue to march down the road General Martin put in place. It's exactly the right vector.

I am excited to join such a vibrant community of military and civilian Airmen. I am eager to work with you to improve our core mission areas of technology, acquisition support and sustainment. I want to discover how we at headquarters can improve our support to the field. And I will continue the emphasis General Martin placed on force development. My first priority is to have a healthy, educated and trained work force ready to do what we need it to do.

During the coming weeks, I will be visiting AFMC's installations. I'm looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can, and learning from you more about the work of our command. I hold you in the highest regard, and I trust your judgment, ability and integrity. I'll be looking for your ideas on how we can do the mission faster, better, cheaper.

My job will be to lead and support you, work with and for you as we expand the legacy of continuous improvement, transformation and change for the good. The Air Force depends on us, and I pledge to do all I can to make sure our nation's warfighters can always count on AFMC.

## A 'thrilla' in Manila

(Editor's note: This article is one in a continuing series of articles highlighting the best board game alternatives for classic yet tired games like Monopoly, Clue and Risk.)

By **Kendahl Johnson**

Discovery editor

Manila, a thrilling board game from Germany's Zoch Verlag, takes place in the Philippines, during the early 19th century. More than 200 years ago, the Philippines were under the colonial rule of Spain, and the only way for the natives to get goods through to their towns was to ship them by rickety boats, or punts, down treacherous waterways. Manila follows this theme, with the object being to smuggle wares to the port of Manila and make money in the process. The winner of the game is the player with the most money.

The game is broken into voyages, with four rounds per voyage. In the first round, the position of harbormaster is auctioned off. The auction's winner then loads punts with three out of four possible wares (silk, nutmeg, jade and ginseng) and places the punts on a numbered sea route track, from zero to five (totaling nine points for the three punts). The next rounds, the punts move towards the port based on dice rolls; to reach the harbor, a punt has to reach 14 on its sea route track with three die rolls.

In each of the first three rounds, players choose a spot on the board to place an accomplice. Placing accomplices is virtually speculating on an expected outcome of each voyage. Before the dice are rolled to advance the punts, players place one of their accomplices on a vacant space on the gameboard. Each space costs money and provides a profit if the position comes through. For example, you can wager that just one punt will make it to port. It costs four pesos and pays six if successful.

Accomplice options include the port, where you bet on the number of punts to reach Manila; the wharf, where you bet on the number of punts that will not reach the port; the insurance office, which immediately pays 10 Pesos but you must pay for repairs to all punts in the wharf; pirate, which can board and plunder punts that land on number 13 on the sea route; or the pilot, which allow you to move the punts one or two spaces in either direction. Accomplices can also be placed in the punts themselves, with a payout if the punt reaches the port.

The other way to make money is to own shares in the wares. When a ware reaches Manila, its value increases on the black market track and shares in that ware also increase in value. There are five shares available for each ware with players getting two random shares at the start of the game. The harbormaster also has the option of purchasing a share at the start of a turn. At the end of the game, players sell their shares for profit. If you own a share in a ware that never or rarely reached the port, then that share is valueless.

**Complexity:** The game is very easy to understand and play, although you wouldn't get that feeling after reading the rules. Anyone who has previously played could explain the game in about five minutes, but deci-

phering the overwritten text of the rulebook takes more time and effort. Be sure to read the rules thoroughly to avoid missing a major rule, as happened in our first game.

#### Harbormaster:

This position is vitally important to one's success in this game. The harbormaster determines which wares get loaded in the punts, where these punts start on the sea route, and which punts move first. They also have the opportunity to buy a share, which can be very profitable by game's end. The harbormaster has first choice in placement of apprentices, which can be very important in the second and third placement rounds, where they are first to take advantage of extreme results from the previous dice rolls. Auctioning harbormaster is a brilliant addition to this game and without it, Manila might just be an ordinary speculation game.

**Decisions:** Although there are few decisions to be made in Manila, there are enough to keep the game interesting. The trickiest is determining just how much to spend to be harbormaster. It's a strong role but because of the luck factor, it doesn't guarantee success. Because the position is so powerful and coveted, determining how much you are willing to spend for the opportunity can be very difficult. It is easy to overbid and make no profit, although purchasing the right share could balance this out in the end. Yet one turn of overbidding for harbormaster without a healthy return on the investment can be costly. Also, knowing where to place apprentices and just how much risk to take can often be agonizing.

**Strategy vs. Luck:** Luck certainly plays an important role, but it's not entirely the roll of the dice that determines this game's outcome. There are enough decisions that players have some sense of control. Ultimately, this is a game of business and risk management; one could hardly have an entertaining game along those lines without a random element. But there is just the right mixture of strategy and luck — enough luck to give less experienced players a decent chance to win, but not enough to enable victory based solely on terrific dice rolls.

**Fun Factor:** Manila ranks high on my fun factor scale. Part of the fun derived from the game is based on the group you play with. In our games, someone always placed an accomplice on the pirate space, a high-risk, high-yield wager. That player always shouted the obligatory "HAR!" when placing his apprentice and again, even louder, when boarding or plundering a punt. Overall, even without plundering pirates, Manila is a very enjoyable game that does a great job of packaging an exciting and interesting game around what is essentially a dice-rolling and speculation mechanic. I highly recommend the game for both casual and non-casual game players.



4 out of 5 jacks



# USAFSAM doctor develops new AF first aid kits

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

An emergency medicine physician here has taken the Boy Scout motto “be prepared” to a much higher level by helping modernize antiquated Air Force first aid kits.

In June, the new and greatly improved Air Force individual first aid kit premiered, thanks to the vision of Col. (Dr.) Robert Allen and several colleagues. They were motivated to improve a variety of kits in the Air Force inventory after discovering many of them were unsuitable for today’s emergency medical needs.

“We didn’t have a true mandate to update these kits. Some things in them still work, such as the battle dressings (bandages) designed during World War I. However, we found commercial off-the-shelf items that were better than those we already had,” said Colonel Allen, Air Evacuation Branch chief for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

Colonel Allen took the initiative to re-vamp these kits shortly after arriving at Brooks in 2001. Then, his job required him to provide clinical consultation on Air Force first aid kits to the Air Force Medical Logistics Agency at Fort Detrick, Md.

“They’d call me to ask clinical questions. I was the official first aid kit doc for the Air Force, but I didn’t know what kits we had out there,” Colonel Allen said. He did, however, have extensive knowledge about survival kits as a wilderness medicine expert as well as a deep understanding of specialized medical kits used by Air Force para-rescue personnel.

“I worked with para-rescue as the flight doc for special operations at Fort

Bragg, N.C. They came up with new ideas and modifications for everything,” recalled Colonel Allen, referring to jump kits and overland packs that contained medical supplies and survival material. “Back in everybody’s mind (there) was finding something that can be used that was better, lighter and multi-purpose,” he said.

Colonel Allen found a kindred spirit in Joe Myer, Air Force first aid kit program manager. In 2002, they launched a comprehensive inventory of Air Force first aid kits.

“We found 15 different types of first aid kits. These included kits for individuals, airplanes and survival,” Colonel Allen noted. They also discovered something quite unusual. “The Air Force still had an air-droppable life boat first aid kit on the books from World War II. The B-29 had an air-droppable life boat,” he exclaimed, noting that B-29s were phased out in the late 1950s. He observed, “Nobody in years had taken a look to determine whether we needed them.”

Colonel Allen, Mr. Myers and Col. Randy Dobbins, a physician’s assistant from Lackland AFB’s Wilford Hall Medical Center, sifted through every first aid kit in the Air Force inventory during a 2002 Brooks investigation. “We found in some kits things we had no idea what they were (used) for,” Colonel Allen said.

In the air-droppable life boat kit they found two nine-foot-long cotton strips that mystified them. Among the questionable items they discovered within the individual first aid kit was eye ointment that had years ago exceeded its shelf life. “There was a lot of redundancy and no standardization in these kits,” he said, characterizing them as a logistical nightmare.

Their work led to the Air Force First Aid Kit Modernization Project, launched in 2003, in collaboration with Dr. Fred Emmel with the Air Force Surgeon General Office’s medical modernization program.

Together, they examined best practices and innovations from other sources.

“We looked at kits from the Navy, Army and Marines to see if there was something better out there that we could use,” Colonel Allen said.

They liked the Marines’ new individual first aid kit modular system. The kit’s zip-locked plastic bag modules were designed for specific purposes, such as trauma material that included dressings and compression gauze. “We liked the concept. It was logistically easy to stock,” he said.

They succeeded in fulfilling the project’s goals of using commercial off-the-shelf items that are multi-purpose, have a shelf-life of at least three years and could be adapted for self-aid and at the buddy care level. “All the kits are (now) combinations of various modules,” Colonel Allen said. He said specialized modules include those for vascular access (intravenous), splints and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

The new kits also incorporate the latest commercial technology such as the moldable SAM splint that features a thin

aluminum sheet sandwiched between foam, and the cravat, a multi-purpose triangular bandage. “It (cravat) can be used as a splint or sling for upper extremities. It’s one of the most versatile tools in the new first aid kit,” he said.

The new kits will further enhance Air Force emergency medical care, Colonel Allen noted, referring specifically to Air Expeditionary Force support in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

**Col. (Dr.) Robert Allen, a physician at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, displays an assortment of the Air Force first aid kits he helped revise.**



# General Moseley swears in as Air Force’s 18th chief of staff

ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, Md. — Gen. T. Michael Moseley was sworn in as the Air Force’s 18th chief of staff in a ceremony Sept. 2 that also featured the retirement of Gen. John P. Jumper after 39 years of service.

Acting Secretary of the Air Force Pete Geren presided over the ceremony. Also taking part in the ceremony were Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers.

Secretary Rumsfeld thanked General Jumper for his “exemplary service” to the nation.

“Nowhere except in the military service can you wake up every day and know that our country is safer because of you,” Secretary Rumsfeld said. “John Jumper, you can do that

literally every day for the rest of your life.”

“You’ve given us a great Air Force,” General Moseley told General Jumper during the ceremony. “We are all going to make it our life’s work for you to be proud of us and to continue on the path that you have given us. It is our continued promise that we Airmen will be the best in the world at what we do — dominating air and space.”

Mr. Geren said the Air Force is in good hands with General Moseley.

“With General Jumper’s retirement, this is a bittersweet day for the Air Force,” Mr. Geren said. “But we’re gaining a new chief of staff who has been proven in battle over Iraq and Afghanistan. As the vice chief, he has been directly involved in

running the Air Force for the last two years, and he’s ready.”

General Myers said there is no better Airman to take the reins of the Air Force than General Moseley.

“General Moseley knows a lot about how to deliver air power and what kind of air power to deliver to make effects happen on the battle space,” General Myers said. “During this critical time, General Moseley and his wife are exactly the right people, and we welcome them on board.”

General Moseley said the continued success of the Air Force hinges on the efforts of thousands of Airmen engaged in combat operations worldwide or performing humanitarian relief in the tragic aftermath of the hurricane on the Gulf Coast.



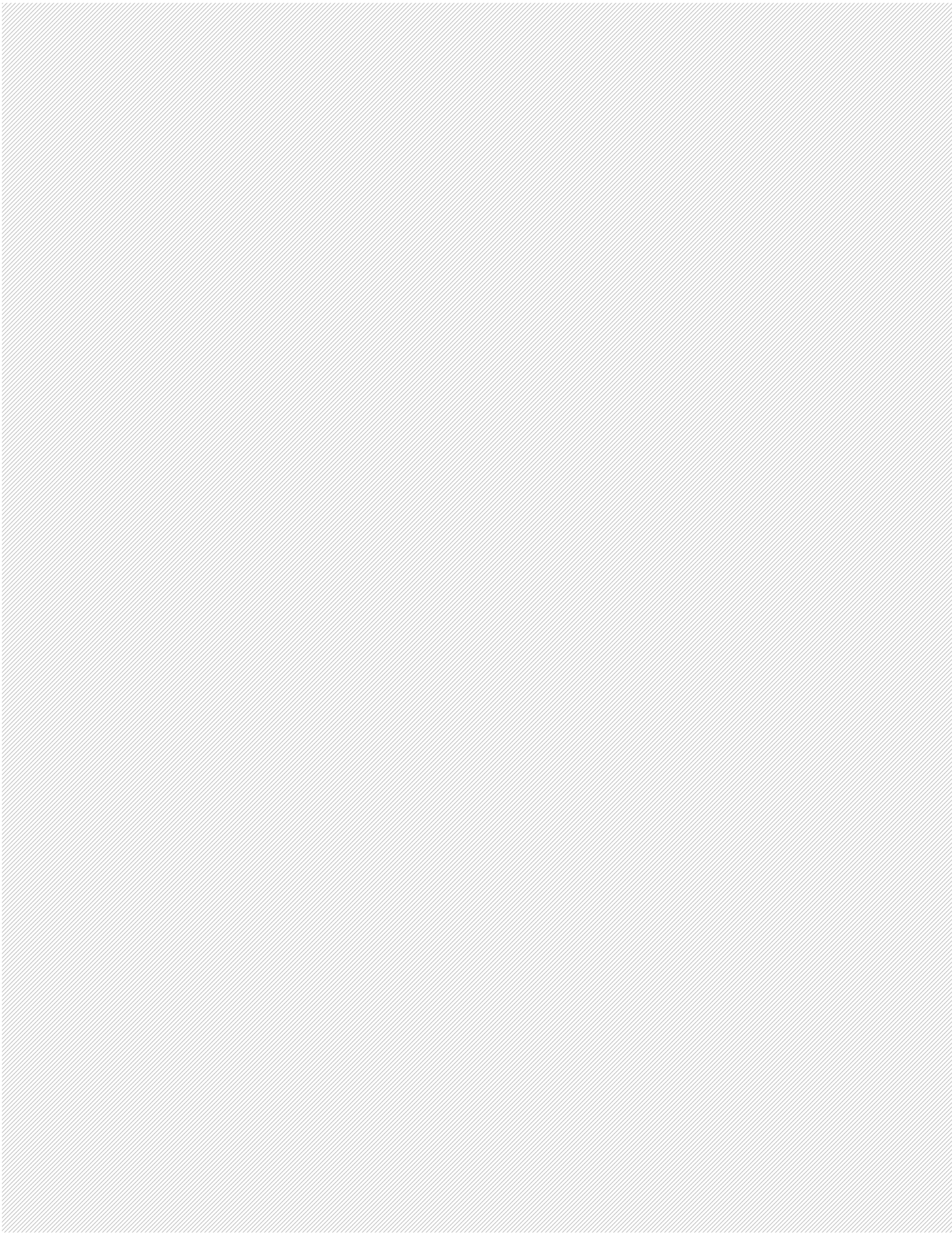
Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

**Gen. T. Michael Moseley addresses the audience after being sworn in as the 18th Air Force chief of staff during a ceremony Sept. 2.**

“This magnificent Air Force is engaged across the globe,” General Moseley said. “The Airmen you see here today, and watching this ceremony around the

world, are our greatest resource and our greatest power. These Airmen are what make the Air Force the most powerful air and space force in the world.”

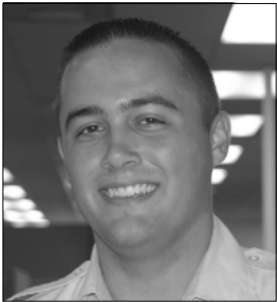






A  
LOOK  
at  
BROOKS

How are the  
rising gas prices  
affecting your  
lifestyle?



Senior Airman  
Adam Baldwin  
311th HSW

I have to watch my money;  
today I had to eat  
Spaghetti-O's!



Staff Sgt.  
Nicholas Graham  
USAFSAM

With the small amount of  
money we make, it's a big  
cut in our pay. I drive 20  
minutes to work.



Patty Berkeridge  
USAFSAM

A carpooling program  
would help, we should  
have one here at Brooks.



Lydia Gaeta  
USAFSAM

I'm planning on quitting  
my second job so I won't  
have to travel as much.



Jeanean Lee  
RBFCU

I don't drive as much, and  
I try to make my other  
friends drive.



**ERIC STEPHENS**  
311th Human Systems  
Wing director

# ACTION LINE

## 536-2222

The DIRECTOR'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play. If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **DIRECTOR'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222**. Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

**The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:**

Brooks City-Base Security.....	536-2851	Military Personnel.....	536-1845
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571	Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
311th Mission Support Group —		Military Pay.....	536-5778
Logistics Division.....	536-3541	Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
Safety.....	536-2111	Inspector General (FWA).....	536-2358
BDA Housing Community Maintenance.....	533-5900	Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
BDA Housing Community Office.....	533-5905	EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
311th Services Division.....	536-2545	Brooks City-Base AF Project Office.....	536-3655
59th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715	Brooks Development Authority.....	536-5366

## Questions from Director's Call (Aug. 3)

**Q:** *What will happen to Hangar 9 if Brooks closes?*  
**A:** Hangar 9 and Museum will stay at Brooks City-Base and managed by the Brooks Heritage Foundation.

**Q:** *Can we reconsider bringing back the alternate work schedule for military?*  
**A:** No. Military will continue with current duty hours.

**Q:***When will you be placing a four-way stop sign at the Golf Course Hill Rd cross road (currently two-way stop)?*  
**A:** The Brooks Development Authority has determined a four-way stop sign at Sidney Brooks and Dave Erwin Dr. would be a greater traffic hazard than the current situation. Traffic backing up on Sidney Brooks as they queue up for the stop sign would create havoc as vehicles are entering the West Gate. The BDA reminds motorists to use proper/safe driving procedures, adhering to the traffic signs as indicated, and

practicing patience (for example, not being in a hurry to leave the intersection).

**Q:** *Can we consider BDU's for everybody wear during the winter months?*  
**A:** We will follow the same uniform policy as the Aeronautical Systems Center (policy letter dated Feb. 3, 2004). Policy dictates military members will wear any combination of blue uniform Monday through Thursday (unless daily duties require the wear of utility uniforms), and every Friday will be "Warfighting Day" when BDUs will be worn.

**Q:** *Can the intersection near the golf clubhouse be converted to a round-a-about?*  
**A:** BDA has no plans to place a roundabout at any Brooks City-Base intersections. Long-range strategy is to turn over the street ownership/maintenance to the City of San Antonio (at present the streets are privately owned/maintained by BDA) and the City doesn't advocate roundabout roads.

## FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

**TRANSITION ASSISTANCE SEMINAR**  
Sept. 13-15 — 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537  
Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve those separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills to include appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and much more. One should attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation.

**TEN STEPS TO A FEDERAL JOB — FEDJOB SEARCH WORKSHOP**  
Sept. 20 — 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537  
Learn the ins and outs of navigating the Federal Job system. Bring your most recent resume (paper if possible), vacancy announcements or job advertisements you have found. Bring a list of courses you have completed in any recent college or other educational program.

**PREDEPLOYMENT BRIEFING**  
Sept. 27 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537  
Mandatory briefings address issues that pertain to deployed service members and their families. Appointments necessary.

**SMOOTH MOVE**  
Oct. 18 — 12:30 - 3:15 p.m., Bldg. 537  
PCSing? Hear briefings from TMO, Legal, Clinic, Finance, Housing, and the Family Support Center and ask questions. Open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses. Overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about OCONUS PCS by staying after for the PCS Overseas class.

**HURRICANE KATRINA**  
For military and civilian Airmen who still have questions about Katrina and her impact, the Air Force Personnel Center Web site can help. Located at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil), the website contains information on entitlements for Air Force Airmen affected by the hurricane, such as limited evacuation allowances and expenses for lodging, transportation, meals and incidentals. Click on the "Hurricane Katrina" tab. The AFPC Readiness Center can be contacted by calling toll free at (800) 435-9941.

**To register for a class,  
call 536-2444**



# Brooks duo reflects right ‘Image’ as Hispanic award recipients

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

A pair of Brooks City-Base military professionals was honored for their career accomplishments Aug. 26 as the 2005 recipients of the “Outstanding Hispanic Women Role Model Award.” Staff Sgt. Melissa Ann Gamez with the Air Force Testing Laboratory, and Lt. Col. Lillian Torres with the Air Force Medical Support Agency, were among a dozen honorees who were honored by Image de San Antonio during the 8th Annual “Women’s Equality Day” celebration held at the Kelly Field Club.

Sergeant Gamez, an Air Force reservist who is a Brooks City-Base civil service employee assigned to the Air Force Institute for Occupational Health, was recognized for her health service career achievements. While stationed in Kuwait during a mobility assignment with Lackland AFB’s 433rd Aeromedical Squadron, she contributed to the successful evacuation of over 9,000 coalition patients during 500 aeromedical evacuation missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The McCollum High School alumnus joined the Air Force Reserve after graduation. Planning a future career in nursing, she is jointly enrolled in San Antonio School of Nursing and the Community College of the Air Force.

Lt. Col. Torres, who is chief of the Air Force Family Advocacy Program for the Office of the Surgeon General’s Air Force Medical Support Agency, was honored for her Air Force achievements. Among her career highlights was improving the Pacific Air Force’s domestic violence program. While serving as director of the Organizational Consulting Office at Brooks City-Base, she provided executive and personal coaching, organizational assessments, organizational development and team-building services.

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York City, she began her career as an enlisted woman in August 1974. After six years as an aerospace ground equipment repairman, she separated from the Air Force to pursue an education, culminating with a master’s degree in social work in 1983 from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.



Photo by Sid Luna

Staff Sgt. Melissa Ann Gamez (left) of the Air Force Institute for Occupational Health and Lt. Col. Lillian Torres, Air Force Medical Support Agency, were recently honored with the Outstanding Hispanic Women Role Model Award.

She received a direct Air Force commission in 1986 and was initially assigned as the Family Advocacy Officer at Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews AFB, Md.

Brooks City-Base student aide William Ayala, assigned to the 311th Human Systems Wing’s command section, was one of two Image recipients of a \$500 Mary Espiritu Scholarship. Mr. Ayala is currently attending Palo Alto College classes as part of a Texas A&M University – Kingsville degree program.

Image was founded to encourage and promote the advancement of Hispanic Americans through employment opportunities, education and professional development.

For years, the Air Force has partnered with Image on initiatives supporting the organization’s charter objectives. The San Antonio-based organization presents its annual awards during the anniversary month of “Women’s Equality Day” that the United States Congress officially designated in 1971.

## Brooks to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Gil Dominguez  
Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence/PA

Brooks City-Base will be observing National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, with a number of activities and events.

The theme for this year’s commemoration is “Hispanic Americans: Strong and Colorful Threads in the American Fabric.”

The celebration kicks off Sept. 19 with Hispanic heritage readings at the Child Development Center from 9 to 10 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday until Sept. 30. Volunteers will be reading to children from books with a Latino theme selected from the base library.

Other events planned for the month-long observance include a 5K Diabetes Awareness Run/Walk, Sept. 22 at 7:30 a.m. at the Health and Wellness Center, National Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation and Mariachi Mass Sept. 23 at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel and a youth dance, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center.

The festivities cap off with a luncheon Oct. 4 at the Brooks Club, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30

p.m. This year’s keynote speaker will be Dr. Ana “Cha” Guzman, president of Palo Alto College.

The luncheon will feature samples of several Latin American dishes. Also, exhibits representing a number of Latin American nations will be set up as part of a contest to see which organization has the best display.

For more information on any of these activities, contact 1st Lt. Luis Quintana at 536-4574 or 2nd Lt. Aurybel Rivero at 536-1187.

The beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of the independence for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Additionally, Mexican independence day falls on Sept. 16 and Chile’s on Sept. 18.

As defined by the U. S. Census Bureau, the term Hispanic refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race.

Hispanics are now the largest minority group in the United States. More than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2000 Census.

Genie Wright  
3 x 2

Retama  
Park  
3 x 6

Send a Wish  
3 x 6





# 311th Human Systems Wing bids farewell to vice commander

By Kendahl Johnson  
*Discovery editor*

Although Brooks City-Base will be saying goodbye to one of its respected leaders, it will not soon forget the kindness, dedication, and service of Col. Laura Alvarado. After more than two years as vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, the colonel will be leaving Brooks and going to Wilford Hall Medical Center to be the chief nurse executive of the 59th Medical Wing.

It will be the retirement assignment for Colonel Alvarado, who has dedicated more than 27 years to serving her country in

the Air Force. Although leaving will be difficult, she is excited about the new opportunity and challenge.

“I have an opportunity to go back to doing the kind of work in nursing that I think is critical right now,” Colonel Alvarado said. “Wilford Hall has its challenges, especially under the current BRAC situation, but I have the opportunity in my last two and half years of service to really develop our next generation of nurse corps leaders.”

Colonel Alvarado has a long list of accomplishments and awards. Just prior to joining the senior leadership team at the wing, she was the commander and dean of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine – the first female and first non-physician in the school’s history to hold that position.

It was while at the school, in June 2003, that Brigadier General Tom Travis offered her the position of vice commander of

the wing.

“I never had any intentions of coming to this job. That was never part of my plan,” she said. “Typically medics aren’t offered wing positions like this. It’s not something you ever aspire to do because there just aren’t many opportunities to do it.”

Although it wasn’t part of her career plans, it was an opportunity that was too good to pass up – a job that allowed her to implement some of her ideas about how commanders and units should be supported at the wing level.

“General Travis gave me free license to do anything I wanted to keep the wing running for him. One of the things was to provide more support to the units,” she said. “Over the two years, that’s been one of my major objectives – to make sure we were being responsive to the customer. We’ve worked hard to try to develop more cohesion and better communication among all the commanders and directors and form a true team.”

Another priority for Colonel Alvarado has been to ensure that leaders at the Air Force, Aeronautical Systems Center and Air Force Materiel Command levels are confident in the wing’s mission. “We need to be sending one

message to the Air Force and to AFMC and ASC—that message is that we are the experts in humans and human systems. I wanted that message to be a reflection of everything we do in the wing. I also wanted to make sure we communicated that excellence in every aspect of what we did.”

She said winning five Air Force outstanding unit awards proves the wing is dedicated to doing the best work possible. She also said she feels passionate about the importance of the mission and finds pride in what is being accomplished at Brooks.

“Nothing tops the mission that we do. Everything we do here is important,” she said. “It affects the warfighter – it supports, it protects, it enhances. Everything we do here has a direct relationship to combatant commanders and commanders of every category. You can’t help but feel pride in the things we do here.”

Colonel Alvarado said she will miss the mission, but more importantly, she will miss the people of Brooks. “I will miss the people because that’s always who we miss. I am continually amazed at the innovativeness and the willingness to work hard and the genuineness of people to really want to do the best that they can



Photo by Samantha Shieh

**Col. Laura Alvarado will be leaving her position as vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing to be chief nurse executive of the 59th Medical Wing.**

do. Basically, this has to go down as the best four years I have had in the Air Force.”

Colonel Alvarado will out-process Sept. 16. She said leaving Brooks will be one of those very difficult events in one’s career. It will certainly be difficult for the people of Brooks to watch her leave.



Photo by Samantha Shieh

**Col. Laura Alvarado, vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, greets Lucy Belles, director of the Family Support Center, at an FSC-sponsored chili cookout.**



# Airmen survive Project CHEER event

By Elizabeth Castillo

Discovery writer

Project CHEER provided an evening of fun for Airmen with team oriented games during “Survivor Night” Aug 26. Hosted by the Non-Commissioned Officer Council, Survivor Night was designed to teach Airmen the importance of team work.

“The main goal was team building; we wanted the Airmen to work as a team,” said Staff Sgt. Christopher Hughes, vice president of the NCO Council.

The event brought approximately 50 Airmen to the fitness center track, Sydney’s, the volleyball courts and the swimming pool, where various Survivor Night challenges took place.

Split into groups of seven, the Airmen competed at seven stations, with competitions that challenged their knowledge, physical capability, leadership skills and the ability to forgo a “brain freeze,” with each station offering teamwork-oriented challenges requiring the Airmen to rely on each other to complete the tasks.

In one typical gut-wrenching challenge common to those seen on television, teams were responsible for finishing off a gallon of ice cream.

The Airmen’s familiarity of the Air Force Manual and other Air Force knowledge was challenged in two games that tested their skills and memory. One game was set up like television’s game show “Jeopardy” and the other was

named “Jenga Beach” where they searched for the correct answer hidden on a wooden “Jenga” block in sand.

Leadership and communication skills were tested during a “mine field” exercise where an Airman was blindfolded and required to slalom through an obstacle of cones guided only by their teammates. In a test of strength, two teams competed against one another in a tug-of-war.

Each station was a timed event where the two teams with the highest scores at the end of the evening competed in a swimming relay to be named the overall champion. With the help of the NCO Council, this Project CHEER event was able to teach Airmen the value of team work all while having a good time.

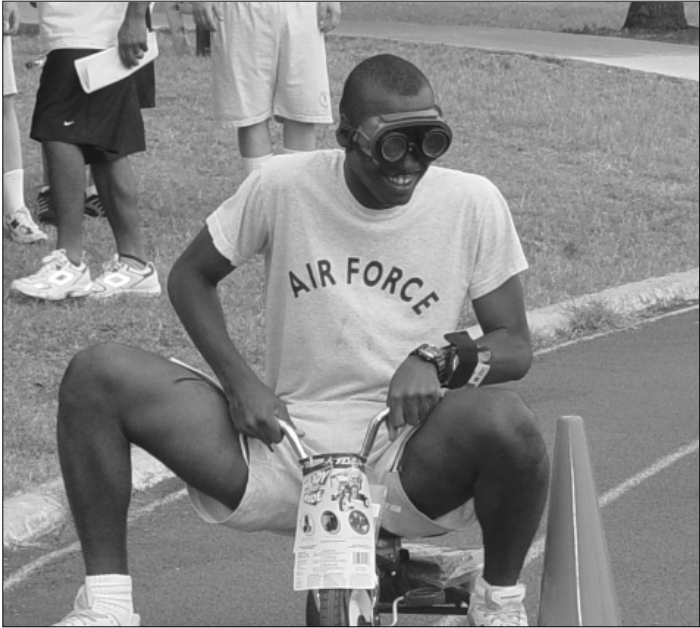


Photo by Staff Sgt. Katrice Shields

**Airman Basic Moses McRay, a student at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, competes in a competition during Project CHEER’s “Survivor Night.” The event was hosted by the NCO council and was designed to promote teamwork.**



## Things to do around Brooks

### VALERO TEXAS OPEN

Free tickets

Limited free tickets to the grounds of the Valero Texas Open are available through the First Sergeants. The event takes place Sept. 19-25 at LaCantera Golf Club. Tickets are made available to Brooks City-Base by the Valero Texas Open.

### Volunteers needed

The Valero Texas Open seeks volunteers for this year’s event. To register as a volunteer, visit [www.aetcsv.us](http://www.aetcsv.us) and click on the Valero Texas Open logo. The volunteer perk package includes a week-long tournament pass, a week-long tournament pass for a guest, complimentary food and beverages during shifts, invitations for two to the volunteer appreciation party, a complimentary round of golf at LaCantera for volunteers who work a minimum of 18 hours, and a volunteer parking pass. The package is valued at slightly over \$400. Volunteers who make a \$25 donation will receive a volunteer uniform shirt and cap.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

Bldg. 821, 724-3720

Registered massage therapist Sherman Lennon is now working at the health and wellness center. The therapy uses the classic Western Swedish massage therapy techniques including deep tissue work and trigger point. Massage therapy is used for tired, stressed-out bodies, sore muscles, aching necks, backs, shoulders, legs, feet and hands. Appoint-

ments can be scheduled for Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For prices or to schedule an appointment, call Mr.. Lennon at 724-3720.

### BROOKS CLUB

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

**Poker Tournament** — Get in on the latest craze at the Brooks Club during the four-week Air Force Materiel Command Texas Hold ‘Em base tournament. The tournament consists of three weeks of open play with a championship round held the fourth week. Contact Letty Martinez at 536-3444 or Cindy Floyd at 536-3782 for additional information.

**Cook Your Own Steak Night** — Starting Sept. 12 patrons can grill their own steaks. Bring the family or friends to the Boar’s Head Pub every Monday evening from 4-7 p.m. and cook your steak just the way you like it. For \$7.50, you will receive a New York strip steak, potato salad, baked beans, rolls and butter.

### OUTDOOR RECREATION

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Outdoor recreation has scheduled two Texas Treasure Casino trips — Sept. 24 and Oct. 15. The Sept. 24 trip is \$20 per person and will use van transportation. Cost for the Oct. 15 trip is \$25 and transportation will be by commercial bus. The price includes admission on the Texas Treasure cruise ship located in Port Aransas, transportation, dining in the International Buffet, complimentary beverages while gaming and live entertainment.

Participants will depart from Sidney’s parking lot at 7 a.m. with the cruise scheduled from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Texas Treasure offers 20 table games and more than 500 slots. Participants must be at least 21 years of age to book passage on the Texas Treasure. Patrons without proper state or federal identification will not be allowed on-board.

### SIDNEY’S

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Sidney’s has been “scrambling” to please its customers. It now offers eggs cooked to order — omelettes, scrambled or fried, plus pastries and bagels. Stop by the new grill on the food line.

Janice McMahon, 536-5475





# Aeromedical evacuation hub established at Lackland

By Master Sgt. Paul Fazzini  
*Air Mobility Command Public Affairs*

Patients from the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport are now being flown to Lackland Air Force Base where a hub has been established to support Hurricane Katrina aeromedical evacuation operations.

Base officials said the location was chosen as a hub because of its ramp accessibility, and the fact that there are 31 area hospitals to transport patients within the geographical area.

As patients are brought to the medical hub, they are processed for future transport to one of the nearby hospitals or trauma centers.

“Because the patients are already triaged in New Orleans, we already know where they’re going to be taken, so the process is very efficient,” said Tech. Sgt. Colleen Roundtree, a 433rd Airlift Wing spokeswoman. “The trauma patients are immediately taken to the trauma centers, and the other patients are taken to regular hospitals.”

AE officials are hoping to be able to handle up to 2,000 patients per day by the end of the week, Sergeant Roundtree said. More than 10,000 evacuees at the New Orleans airport are in need of medical attention.

To help provide medical support to the displaced victims in the hurricane-devastated region, Air Mobility Command officials moved expeditionary medical support Airmen from Illinois, Maryland and Florida. The Airmen are supporting the Medical Rapid Response Force estab-

lished at the New Orleans airport.

“They have all the capabilities on the ground to set up a medical operation, but because they are operating efficiently out of one of the airport’s terminals, the team has not set up the Expeditionary Medical System,” said Capt. Tim Smith, Aeromedical Evacuation Mission Support chief.

The system provides rapid response, resuscitative surgery and emergency medical support personnel. To date, more than 811 patients have been flown to Lackland.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Borosch

Volunteers help Hurricane Katrina evacuees get off a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft at Lackland Air Force Base. The evacuees arrived Sept. 2 from New Orleans. They are being inprocessed, given a medical checkup, fed and put into temporary shelters.

## USAFSAM trauma summit to help improve readiness

By Rudy Purificato  
*311th Human Systems Wing*

In a continuing commitment to fulfill its unit motto “trauma trained, war ready,” the Air Force Expeditionary Medical Skills Institute of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine is hosting its 2nd Annual Trauma Summit here Sept. 27-29.

Event planners encourage the Brooks community to participate in the summit’s public forum on the first day starting at 9:15 a.m. at USAFSAM’s large auditorium. The summit is designed to address medical readiness issues and support training needs of medical professionals assigned to CSTARS, Center for Sustainment of Trauma And Readiness Skills.

“CSTARS units are located in Baltimore, Cincinnati and St. Louis,” said Maj. Barbara Dauerty, AFEMSI Bioenvironmental Sciences Corps Readiness Skills Verification Program chief. Criti-

cal care physicians, nurses and medical technicians are primarily assigned to CSTARS, she noted.

CSTARS members receive specialized training, Major Dauerty explained, by partnering with major universities that provide real-world instruction through the latter’s trauma centers. “These trauma centers work with Air Force training programs to give some AFSC and UTC (personnel) training they need to be deployable,” she explained. Participating medical education institutions include the University of Maryland, University of Cincinnati and University of St. Louis.

Established in January 2004, AFEMSI has also been involved in medical research. “We’ve been involved in the development of a brain acoustic monitor for critical care and a time-phased study in St. Louis comparing methods of delivery for an antidote delivery system for chemical and biological agents,” Major Dauerty said.





# Brooks plans fundraising events for Combined Federal Campaign

By Kendahl Johnson  
*Discovery editor*

Brooks City-Base personnel will soon have an opportunity to give to their favorite charity through this year's Combined Federal Campaign, which begins Oct. 5 and runs through Nov. 18. This year's slogan is "CFC... Changing Lives, One Gift at a Time." Brooks is working towards a goal of raising \$353,895.

Numerous activities have been planned to help raise funds and promote the CFC. The kick-off event will be a breakfast and silent auction Sept. 29 in the Brooks Club. Other planned events include a "Great Pumpkin Event," a fun run, a taco sale and a golf tournament.

The annual CFC is the one time organizations are allowed to solicit charitable donations in an official capacity. The primary CFC contacts for Brooks are Maj. Robert Pluta and Maj. Barbara Dauerty, but every unit has a CFC key worker to help answer questions and provide support.



 CFC ... Changing Lives, One Gift at a Time.


"There are a lot of great activities planned. We hope to get everyone involved," said Captain Nick Doukas, a key worker. "There are great opportunities to not only help out these charities, but to have a good time doing it."

Brooks employees have two options when donating to the CFC. They can make a blind

donation which is distributed equally throughout all the CFC charities or they can donate to a specific charity through a pledge card.

"In the past, the San Antonio CFC has been in the top 10 throughout the country. Brooks' efforts have always been strong," said Maj. Pluta. "With the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, their will be a heightened interest in contributing to CFC to provide help to those who have been affected."

If you would like to find out more about the Combined Federal Campaign or any of the special events contact your unit key worker or one of the project officers, Major Pluta at 536-2940 or Major Dauerty at 536-2353.



**Education notes**

By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education Services Office  
536-3617

## Officer Education Levels

All Officers need to verify their education level in the vMPF. If the education level that is reflected is incorrectly listed, please contact the AFIT Academic Coding Section at the [afit.coding@afit.edu](mailto:afit.coding@afit.edu) or 937-255-6565 ext. 4324.

If the education level is missing, an official transcript, sent directly from the school granting the degree to AFIT is required. The address at AFIT is AFIT-SCI, 2950 Hobson Way, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433. Education Services does not have the ability to update an officer's records at the local level. Please allow ample time for this update to occur at AFIT and plan accordingly.

## Upper Iowa University

Upper Iowa allows students to complete degrees through its Military Campus Resident Centers, on-line, or through external degree programs. In January, Upper Iowa University will begin offering courses that also apply toward Community College of the Air Force, thereby allowing students to complete work toward a bachelors degree at the same time they meet requirements for CCAF. For more information, call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment with Maggi Monroe, the San Antonio Center representative.

Pamphlets are available in the Education Office or visit the Upper Iowa website at [www.uiu.edu](http://www.uiu.edu) or call 536-3617.

## Discover Program online

The Discover Program is a career exploration program for individuals searching for a new career. This program can be used by military, civilians and family members. For more information or to schedule an appointment to review the website and get started, call 536-3617.

## Texas State University

Texas State University offers a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree. The BAAS degree provides an excellent opportunity for individuals to capitalize on prior work and training experiences. Students pursuing this degree may transfer semester hours previously earned, individualize the degree plan with major emphasis in an occupational field of choice, and earn semester hour credit for work and life experience and training conducted by business, industry, and military. Night classes are available in the San Antonio and San Marcos area. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 536-3618.

## Air Force Virtual Education Center

Service members can view information about Air Force education centers, individual education record, DANTES test scores, and tuition assistance requests from the on-line Virtual Education Center. Tuition assistance is requested through this website as well. CCAF Students can order CCAF transcripts from the website and view a web progress report. There are also practice tests available for CLEP exams and information about commissioning. To access the AFVEC go to <https://my.af.mil/afvecprod>. For more information, call 536-3617.



# Quarterly Award Winners — Second Quarter



Airman of the Quarter  
Senior Airman  
Jonathan Lanning  
68th IOS



NCO of the Quarter  
Staff Sgt.  
Ernesto Portunato  
USAFSAM



SNCO of the Quarter  
Senior Master Sgt.  
Dan Meadows  
HSG



CGO of the Quarter  
1st Lt. Wendell Toney  
HSG



Honor Guard  
Airman 1st Class  
David Clay  
68th IOS

The quarterly winners for the fourth quarter awards were recognized at a ceremony July 27 at the Brooks Club. Eric Stephens, director of the 311th Human Systems Wing, presented the winners with their awards.

*Not Pictured:*  
Student Aide  
Melissa Ruiz  
AFRL



GS-03 through GS-05  
Janice McMahon  
311th MSG



GS-06 through GS-08  
Steven Linnemeyer  
USAFSAM



GS-09 through GS-12  
Marcelita Castillo  
HSG



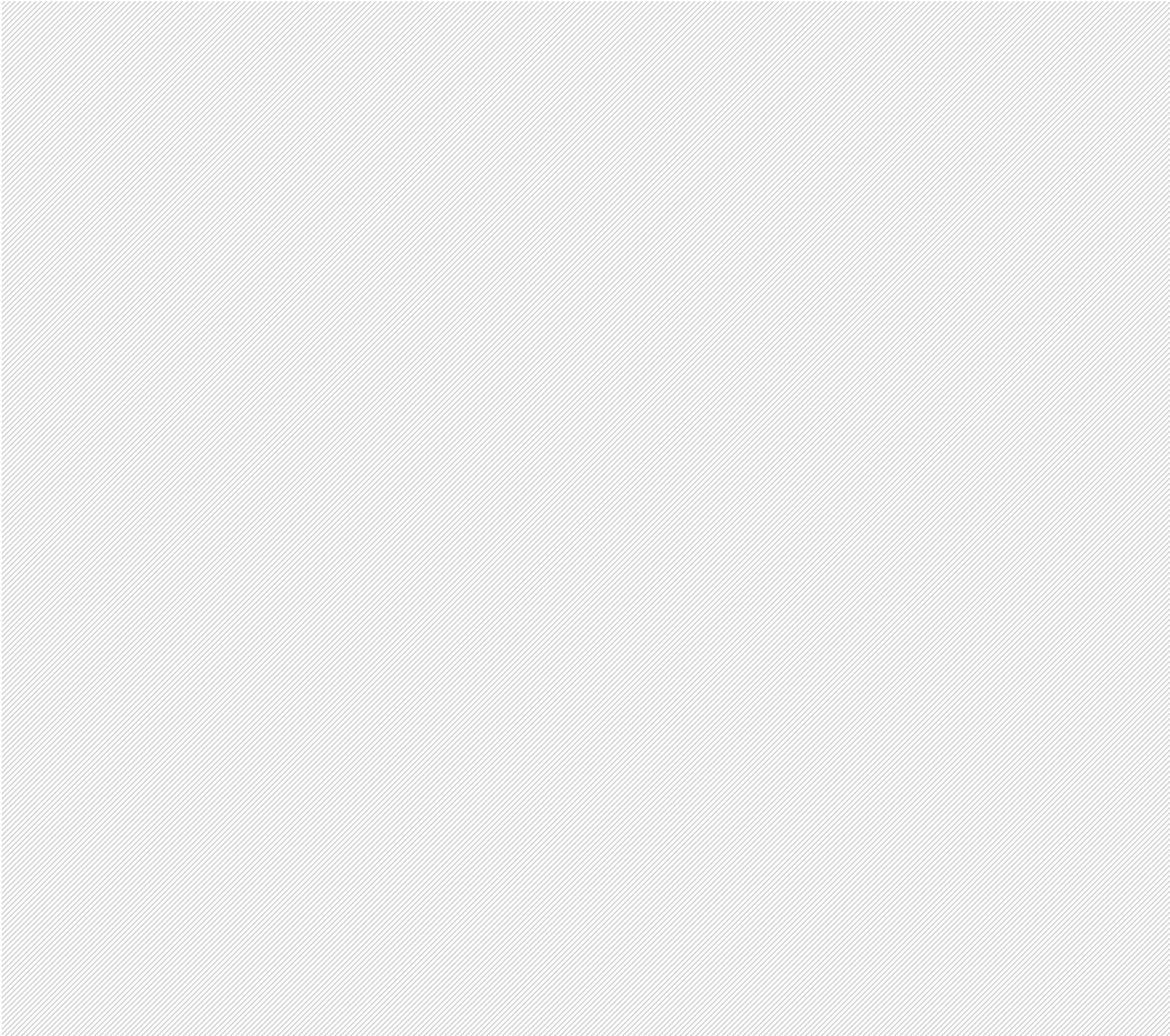
GS-13 and above  
Joe Reyes  
AFRL



NAF Manager  
Cynthia Floyd  
311th MSG



NAF Technician  
Wandee Cavazos  
311th MSG







# The aftermath of

## Evacuees arrive at BCB looking for shelter, help

By 2nd Lt. John Chattaway

311th Human Systems Wing/Public Affairs

They packed their bags like it was any other trip. Take only what you need. They expected to be home in a few days.

That was two weeks ago.

For evacuees like Staff Sgt. Carla Bailey and her family, the past week and a half has been a nightmare. They left Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., the morning of Aug. 28 and arrived in San Antonio 18 hours later.

"We arrived at the hotel Monday (Aug. 29) but had to move to Brooks billeting, not knowing how expensive it would get off base," said Sergeant Bailey, a computer operator from Keesler AFB. "All we brought were clothes, underwear, toothpaste. We left everything else, even our pet; but luckily we found out our dog is still alive."

Unfortunately, their home wasn't as lucky. The Baileys recently received a phone call from a neighbor who surveyed the damage.

"He said the windows were all blown in. The door was off the hinges. There was mud everywhere; the entire first floor was in disarray. On the second floor, the roof was caved in and the ceiling was collapsing," Sergeant Bailey said. "We also lost our other vehicle."

The worst part, however, is not knowing what the next step is. The new school year has already started and Sergeant Bailey has a 17 year old son and an eight year old daughter who are not yet enrolled in school.

"My son is supposed to graduate this year and my daughter loves school," said Sergeant Bailey. "Now it appears the (Communications) Squadron is being recalled, but they recommend dependents stay with family if possible. Our family is spread out all over California."

Sergeant Bailey doesn't want to leave her family behind nor does she want them to move to somewhere like Alabama, the closest they could get to Keesler. She has been working on a possible Permanent Change of Station to San Antonio, but that is just one thing on a laundry list of worries the Bailey family has.

"I feel helpless and homeless," Sergeant Bailey explained. "The clothes have been a tremendous help but financially, it's been hard. You can't trade in clothes and ask if I can stay here for a few more weeks. But the good thing is we're all still alive."

Hundreds of evacuees have been arriving in San Antonio over the past week and they need all the help and support we can offer. Volunteers are still needed at the various shelters in San Antonio. To donate or volunteer, contact the Family Support Center at 536-2444 or the Base Chapel at 536-3824.

## Katrina takes heavy toll at Keesler

By Louis A. Arana-Barradas

Air Force Print News

Hurricane Katrina smashed "a good 95 percent" of Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., turning it into a pile of debris and mud, said a base spokesperson.

Lt. Col. Claudia Foss, 81st Training Wing public affairs officer, said water surges from the Gulf of Mexico and the Bay of Biloxi reached depths of five to six feet at times.

"Whether it was five feet, one foot or a few inches, at one point everything was covered with bay or Gulf water," she said.

Fortunately, there have been no reports of people killed or injured at Keesler, she said. More than 6,000 people rode out the storm in seven shelters at the base and all are accounted for. But elsewhere the storm has claimed at least 68 lives and the death toll is expected to rise.

The colonel said what the base looks like now compares "to being in Iraq" because of the destruction and debris scattered everywhere. The storm knocked trees down or stripped them of their limbs.

"Power lines are down," she said. "We've got light poles that are just bent over and there's nothing around them — so how did they bend over? Everywhere you walk, there's either debris, trees that have fallen over or mud and muck."

According to officials at the Air Force Climatology Center at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., the maximum winds at the base gusted to more than 90 mph. And

sustained winds of 50 mph buffeted the base for most of the time.

The devastation at the base near Biloxi is widespread, as it is along the Gulf Coast and further inland. Floodwaters destroyed much of the base housing area and heavily damaged industrial areas, the colonel said. And the storm damaged a big part of the base runway.

"In many homes, there was three feet of water," said Colonel Foss, who lost her home to the flooding. "In my house, the wall facing the bay is gone." The colonel said one home burned down. Other homes less damaged by flooding are "not liveable," she said.

Near the base front gate that faces the Gulf, six-foot deep water flooded the commissary and exchange stores. Many buildings have missing roofs and walls. Teams are working to clear as much debris as possible so people can return to their homes for the first time since moving into shelters late last week.

"So we're anticipating how folks are going to react," the colonel said. She said many will find their homes destroyed. But at least they can make "an initial assessment on whether or not they can salvage anything."

There is no power at the base hospital, so patients must move elsewhere.



U.S. Air Force photo

As Hurricane Katrina struck the base, rising waters swallowed parked cars. The base and the 6,000 sheltered military students, permanent party, civilians and their families survived the Category 4 hurricane with no casualties. The initial damage was catastrophic to base infrastructure.



U.S. Air Force photo

Air Force medics tend to patients awaiting airlift. C-130 Hercules crews from the 50th Airlift Squadron at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., teamed up with Airmen from the 452nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., to relocate sick and injured patients devastated after Hurricane Katrina.





# Hurricane Katrina

## Airmen saving lives in New Orleans, Mississippi

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force bases nationwide are deploying hundreds of Airmen to Louisiana and Mississippi to save lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Search and rescue missions are under way around the clock to evacuate hurricane victims stranded along the Gulf Coast.

Two 50th Airlift Squadron C-130 Hercules from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., and Airmen from the 452nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., landed at the Louis Armstrong

New Orleans International Airport on Saturday to relocate sick and injured patients devastated after Hurricane Katrina.

The Joint Task Force-Katrina mission was to evacuate patients to here and to Ellington Field, Texas, where hubs have been established to support evacuation operations.

“Our C-130 has been transformed into a flying ambulance in the sky,” said Tech. Sgt. Patrick Carter, a 463rd Operations Support Squadron loadmaster.

As of Sunday, the Air Force had moved more than 2,955 aeromedical evacuation patients, transferred more than 15,165 passengers and delivered 4,613 tons of cargo supporting JTF-Katrina, Air Force officials said.

Aeromedical evacuation has been vital in saving lives, said medics on the ground.

“If we don’t move fast enough, people are going to die,” said Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Christa, aeromedical evacuation unit superintendent at the New Orleans airport. “Every (aero-

medical evacuation unit) in the Air Force is here to help. We are landing one (cargo airlift) plane here every 45 minutes.”

The initial aeromedical unit arrived at the airport Aug. 31. “At first we worked until we couldn’t work. Now we work 16 hours on, then four hours off,” Chief Christa said.

“We moved quite a few patients,” said Maj. Stacia Belyeu, 452nd AES medical crew director. “The patients were lined up in order of precedence.”

Patients lined the terminals on

litters awaiting transportation and Airmen assessed each patient before loading them onto the C-130’s.

“These people are in an awful situation. We’re here to get them out as quickly as possible. We’ll do as many missions it takes, no matter how long it takes,” said Capt. Delvin Genenbacher, a 50th Airlift Squadron pilot and aircraft commander.

Helicopters from all branches of the military were at times landing every 15 seconds at the airport bringing in rescued people.



U.S. Air Force photo

## Big support

from page 1

First Sergeants have put together packages including groceries, money donations, phone cards and other needed supplies. The sergeants held a steak fry and families are being fed.

More than 50 troops from the 68th Intelligence Squadron spent all night Friday at KellyUSA cleaning the area and setting up cots for incoming evacuees.

Labor Day weekend, many Flight Nurses, Aeromedical technicians, critical care transportation instructors, their spouses, and students of class number 050819 from the School of Aerospace Medicine performed more than 350 man-hours of volunteer service supporting the relief effort.

Volunteers directly participated in the intake, screening and care of more than 300 evacuees requiring medical attention including many with acute and emergent medical conditions.

They coordinated with FEMA and Disaster Medical Assistance Team leadership to provide military medical assistance from Flight Surgeons, Flight Nurses and Technicians to a shelter population that swelled to more than 3,000 in less than 48 hours.

The volunteers also assisted FEMA and DMAT leaders with medical command and control, organizing medical operations, and establishing a pharmacy to service the population while providing patient care capability on a daily basis.

School volunteers also participated in planning and execution of cargo operations. Activities included unloading, sorting, packaging and staging more than 1,000 pallets of donated items for the relief effort as well as loading and driving delivery trucks. Their efforts resulted in the timely delivery of more than 500 pallets of materiel including water, clothing, shoes, bedding, hygiene items and toys for the evacuees.

“The men and women from Brooks made a tremendous difference, continuing our tradition of responsive community service,” said Mr Eric Stephens, Director of the 311th Human Systems Wing.

Others here are volunteering their time at Kelly moving furniture, answering phones at the call center, preparing meals and donating goods. The Family Support Center is running full speed to keep up with the needs of families and troops who have come to Brooks City-Base seeking shelter from the storm. The FSC is accepting clothing and sanitary items and the Brooks Chapel is collecting items for distribution to needy Air Force personnel and families.



U.S. Air Force photo

Air Force medical personnel were heavily involved in relief efforts, from treating evacuees in need of medical assistance at shelters (left photo) or moving people rescued from New Orleans to a makeshift hospital at New Orleans International Airport and other medical hubs. All aerospace medical doctors, nurses and technicians are trained at Brooks at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine.

## Volunteers still needed

from page 1

help at KellyUSA, but didn’t have an idea what they could do,” Sergeant Olerich said. “People have contacted me and asked if we were doing anything specific. The shelter kitchen fell in my lap.”

Sergeant Olerich said there is a great need for volunteers in many areas, but cooking for 10,000 people twice a day is a large task. Anyone interested in volunteering to work in the shelter kitchen can contact the sergeant at 536-4737.

Contrary to rumor, volunteers are still very much needed and Kelly USA is putting out a plea for help to anyone who can donate their time. Volunteers who would like to work at KellyUSA in Bldg. 1536 do not need to be registered with the Red Cross, but

must sign in and wear a name tag they provide.

The need is greatest in the following areas:

**Sorters** to sort through donated clothes.

**Welcomers** to talk to evacuees, assess needs and perform “active listening.”

**Post Office** workers to help people fill out change of address forms.

**Cafeteria workers** to clear tables and keep it clean.

**Librarians** to help sort books and magazines and manage a makeshift library.

**Children’s area workers** to manage a play area and play with and keep children occupied.

**Logistics coordinator and workers** to assist in various aspects of the shelter, including creating a distribution center.

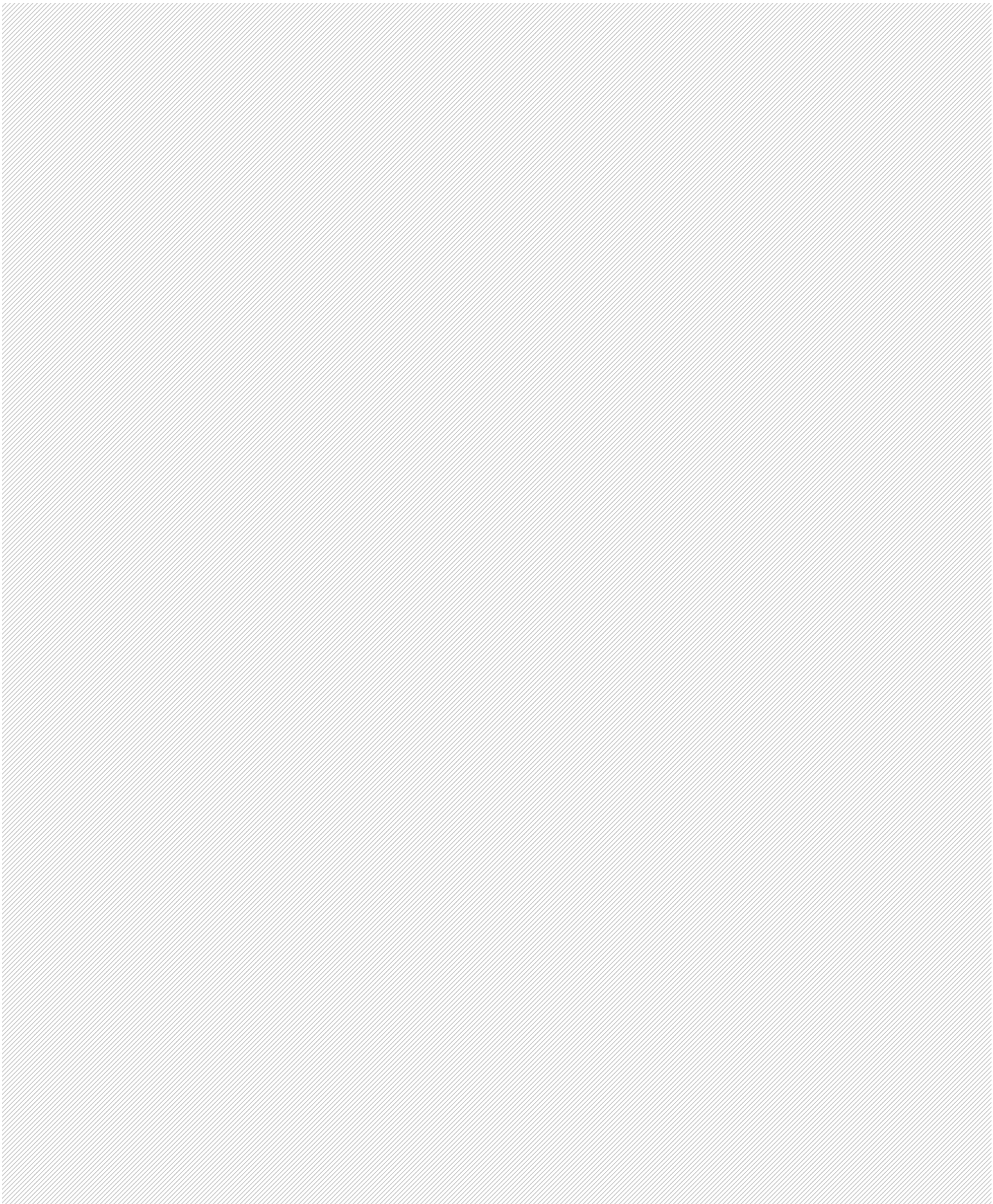
**Janitors** to clean facilities, sweep and clean floors, and take out trash.

**Storage runners** to seek out requested items and return them to living area.

**Donation area workers** to keep the clothes neat so evacuees can find what they need with a sense of dignity. Constant supervision and assistance is needed

**Newsletter writer** to create flyers or newsletters to keep evacuees aware of services and programs being offered in the city and at the center. Person needs to be willing to network with all people and have a computer and printer at their home.

Entertainment coordinator and workers to engage adults in meaningful activities to keep them occupied.







# Editor favored to win Discovery’s fantasy football challenge

By **Kendahl Johnson**  
*Discovery editor*

The NFL kicks off its season this weekend, as does the Discovery’s Fantasy Football League. Seven Brooks employees – two from Public Affairs and five from the Air Force Research Laboratory – stepped up to the fantasy football challenge, issued in August. The league’s draft was held Aug. 31 and here is a breakdown of the teams and the predicted finish.

**Kendahl Johnson aka Editor-Is-Chief – Prediction: 1st**

Not surprisingly, from top to bottom, this is the best team in the league and the team to beat. I started by drafting three stellar running backs, including Shaun Alexander and Tiki Barber. I grabbed Donavon McNabb in the fifth round and later landed Brett Favre as insurance. If there is a weakness, and you’d be hard pressed to find one, it would be at wide receiver. There are no marquee names, but solid players like Reggie Wayne, Laverneus Coles and Plaxico Burress, mixed with an awesome running game and a solid quarterback, should be enough to win the league handily.

**Staff Sgt. James Sheerin aka Hokieskins – 2nd**

The sergeant had a solid draft and will be in the running for the league title. With his first four picks, he landed two top running backs (Edgerrin James and Clinton Portis) and two top receivers (Marvin Harrison and Hines Ward). A better quarterback might give him a better chance, as Drew Brees has been known to be inconsistent, as has Hokieskins’s back up Aaron Brooks. But if one of these QBs consistently performs above expectations, Hokieskins will be a force to reckon with.

**Senior Airman Andre Scott aka Giants – 3rd**

Drafting fifth, the Giants were able to get some solid players at nearly every position. With the one-two punch of Priest Holmes and Corey Dillon at running back, expect the Giants to make the playoffs. Jason Witten was just shy of 1,000 yards receiving and could top that mark this year. If there is a weakness to exploit it would be at wide receiver – Isaac Bruce is getting old and Jerry Porter is fighting a hamstring injury. However, success will likely hinge on the performance of Jake Delhomme. If he even comes close to putting up

similar numbers to last year, expect to see Giants in the playoffs.

**2nd Lt. John Chattaway aka Homewreckers – 4th**

With Peyton Manning at the helm, a spot in the playoffs is all but guaranteed. But is the best quarterback in the league enough to win it all? Probably not. The Homewrecker’s roster is like vanilla ice cream. There is nothing really wrong with it, but it’s still plain. Jamal Lewis and Torry Holt will do fine at their positions, and Tony Gonzalez is still the best tight end in the NFL. But after that, there just isn’t a player on his roster who stands out as someone who will make a difference come playoff time.

**Staff Sgt. Max Alvarado aka Airmax – 5th**

Airmax has the top running back in the NFL, drafting Ladanian Tomlinson with the first overall pick. He also has arguably the best wide receiver in Terrell Owens, a great third round pick up. After that, his team is a bit questionable. His quarterbacks, Michael Vick and Jake Plummer have not performed well in fantasy football leagues in past seasons. His tight end, Antonio Gates, will have a difficult time putting up the

similar numbers to last season. Curtis Martin had a phenomenal year in 2004, but don’t expect a repeat.

**Tech. Sgt. Warren Benge aka Fantasy Freak – 6th**

Fantasy Freak had a decent draft. He grabbed Willis McGahee and Domanick Davis with his first picks, then went for receivers with four of his next five picks. His mistake was waiting until the 11th and 12th rounds to draft quarterbacks – Trent Green and Carson Palmer. Palmer was a decent gamble as he could be a sleeper, but there is a reason Green was still available so late in the draft. Although the most prepared for the draft, Fantasy Freak may be overextended. He wouldn’t admit to the number of leagues he’s joined, but I suspect it is well into the double figures. His lack of a top QB and a possible inability to focus on this league will prove costly in the end.

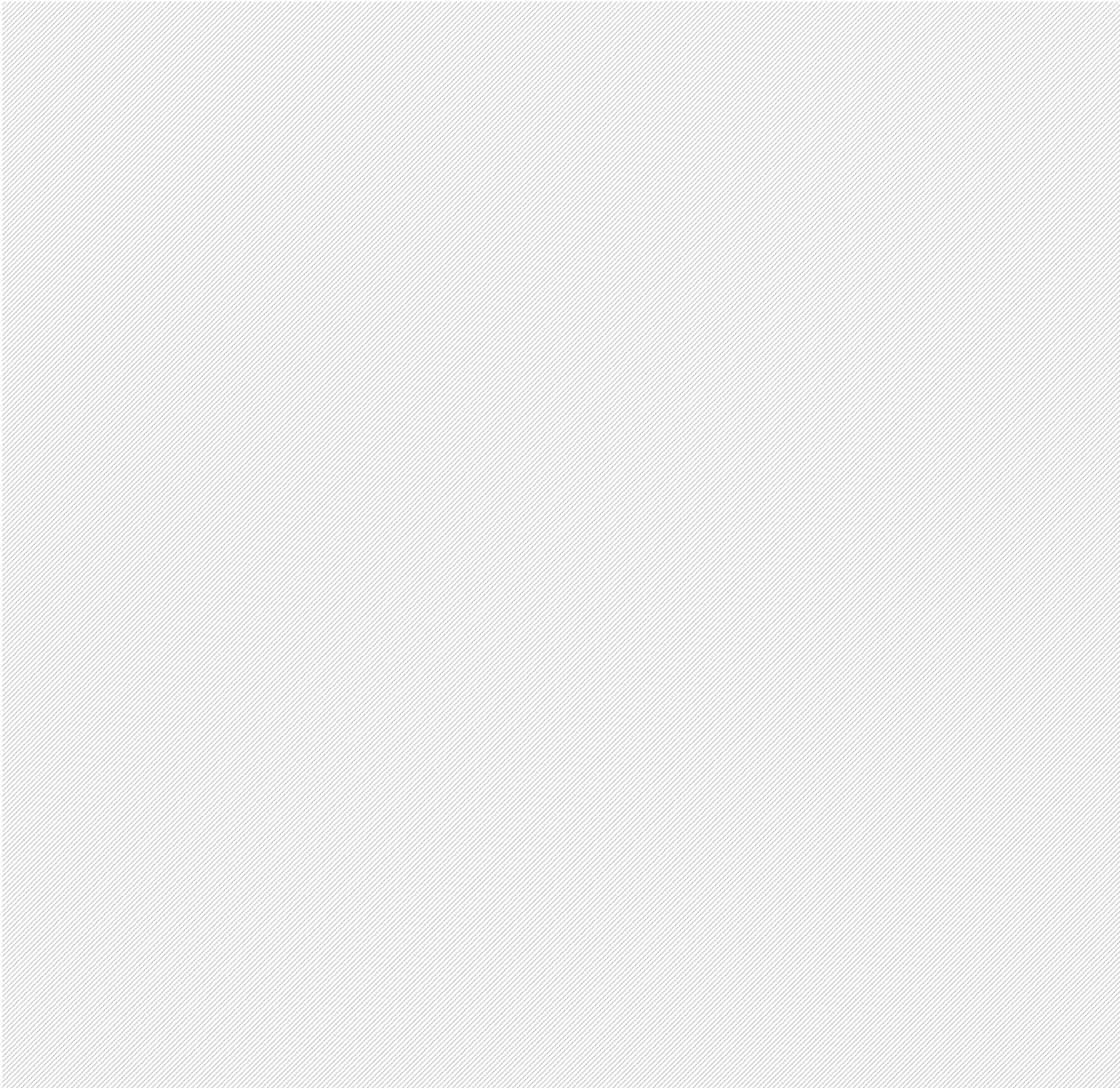
**Capt. Jason Bishop aka Whipping Boy – 7th**

When after the draft, you change your team’s name to Whipping Boy, obviously things don’t look so great. The upside is Whipping Boy drafted Daunte Culpepper at QB and Randy Moss at WR in the first two rounds.

The downside is that the rest of his draft was less than memorable. Unfortunately, lack of preparation hurt Capt. Bishop, who ended up drafting several back ups and injured players. His third pick overall went to Tatum Bell, a second string running back in Denver. Much of the success of this team will be dependent on the success of Minnesota, as five of the team’s starters are Vikings. Unfortunately, that still won’t be enough, as the two captains will be battling it out for last place.

**Capt. James Kisner aka WB Get Outta Here – 8th**

I like this team. Not because I like the players on the roster, but because there always needs to be a team in the league you can count on for a win. His top RB (Deuce McCallister) and top WR (Joe Horn) are both from New Orleans, where they will not have any “true” home games. With the ninth overall pick, the good captain selected Marc Bulger, who would have been around later in the draft. His backup, Kerry Collins, could be his best player. With little depth at RB, he may have to start one of two rookies (J.J. Arrington or Cadillac Williams). Look for WB Get Outta Here to be mathematically eliminated by week seven.







# Former hardcourt star thriving as Brooks basketball coach

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The itch to play again, despite two devastating career-ending injuries, has not subsided in a 24-year-old Brooks City-Base athlete who has found a new niche within Air Force sports. Believing he has been given a second chance, Mike Pena has redirected his passion and love for basketball, knowing that he is fortunate to not be watching games from a wheelchair.

This 311th Communications Squadron second lieutenant is thriving as the new assistant coach for the Brooks men's varsity basketball team. No longer agile on two surgically repaired knees, Pena, nevertheless, is lightning quick on his feet as a basketball strategist.

"I like the strategy of the game, trying to be one step ahead of the opposing coach. It's tough not playing, but I have turned it (injuries) into something positive," Pena said. After playing just a handful of games last season for the Brooks varsity team, Pena knew his time as a player was over. "I think I tore my ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) again during a game last year. I haven't had it checked, but I think it's torn," he said of his short-lived comeback.

However, fate intervened when Brooks varsity head coach

Damion Byrd recruited him as the team's new assistant coach. "I jumped at the chance," he said enthusiastically.

Not too long ago in the heady world of Division I basketball, coaching to Pena was not even on his radar screen. He had been recruited by the Air Force Academy to play basketball, based on his performance as a legitimate San Antonio high school star small forward.

"I was All-District and All-State in my junior and senior years," he said of his contributions to the Antonian College Preparatory High School varsity team becoming a hoop dynasty. His school won five consecutive district and state basketball championships. Joining an elite few, Pena played on four of those championship teams.

The second of eight children born to Ralph Pena and Carol Carver, the future Air Force officer was the only member of his family to pursue sports. At just six feet tall, Pena had no delusions of joining the NBA after graduating from high school in 1999.

An Air Force Academy scout, however, saw in him great potential after watching Pena dominate a local basketball tournament as an All-Tourney player during his senior year. "I had several offers from smaller schools, but the Academy wanted me to play for them," he said.

Grooming him for the rigors of Division I basketball, Pena played a year on the Air Force Academy Preparatory School team. "We played junior colleges, Division II and III teams. I learned it's much more physical at that level," he said.

His doubts about being able to compete in collegiate basketball evaporated the following year when, as an Academy freshman, he excelled on the junior varsity team. "I was playing phenomenally, averaging 20 points and seven assists per game," he recalls.

The "train wreck" to his playing career, as he describes it, came during a Western Nebraska Junior College tournament. "Four days from being moved up to the varsity team, I blew out my knee on a layup in heavy traffic," he said.

Pena tore both his ACL and MCL (medial cruciate ligament) in his left knee, ending his season. "I came back in my sophomore year rehabbing the knee while playing for the JV team. It's hard to come back from that type of injury," he said.

Pena was beginning to regain his old form when lightning struck again. In the same Nebraska gym and tournament where he had injured himself the year before, Pena repeated the feat again. This time, he tore the ACL and MCL in his right knee,



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Brooks men's varsity basketball team's assistant coach Mike Pena (right) goes over a basketball practice schedule with head coach Damion Byrd

adding a partial meniscus tear to boot. After a year off for rehab, Pena joined the Academy varsity team as an assistant during his senior year. The move was fateful.

"I was involved in varsity team player development and was the assistant JV coach. I loved it. It was great fun. I learned that coaching was something I could do and be good at," he admits.

He plans to rely on his collegiate experience to help the Brooks club exceed expecta-

tions. Describing himself as a thinking man's coach, Pena wants to help his teammates learn to become mentally tough.

"There is always somebody better athletically, but if you're mentally strong you can outsmart them," he said. "If players do all the little things right, everything comes into play from there."

And should that occur, Pena believes, the Brooks squad will have positioned itself to win the base's first basketball championship.

## Sprint relay triathlon to premiere at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Capitalizing on the popularity that last year's team triathlon produced, the Brooks Fitness Center will premiere the first sprint relay triathlon in base history Sept. 23.

On Aug. 30, Brooks Sports Advisory Council members unanimously approved a plan by 1st Lt. Erica Lindstrand to stage a sprint relay triathlon, one of four variations of the popular three-event sport.

"In sprint relay, one person (from each team) competes in an event. There will be a maximum of two events an individual can compete in," said Lieutenant Lindstrand. She explained this modification will prevent teams from having their best athlete dominate the competition by participating in all of triathlon's events: swimming, cycling and running.

Lieutenant Lindstrand, the 2004 Brooks 'Female Athlete of the Year' from the Human Systems Group, organized last year's triathlon that attracted 60 athletes on six teams. The 68th Informa-

tion Operations Squadron won last year's competition, billed as the "End of Summer Team Triathlon."

As triathlon planner again this year, Lieutenant Lindstrand has proposed changing the dynamics of a modified triathlon. "The stationary bikes will have a set distance of 15 miles. A monitor will be placed at each bike," she said. The run has been expanded from 1.5 miles to two miles, and the swimming competition has been expanded from two to five full laps in the base pool.

Additionally, teams will be composed of no more than nine athletes, down by one from last year. Teams can be coed. The changes have been made to build more interest in this sport.

The San Diego Track Club originated the first triathlon in 1972 as an innovative way to prepare their runners for marathons. The club also originated the sprint triathlon that featured a 300-800 meter swim, 20-30 kilometer bike race and five kilometer (3.1 mile) run.

To register teams contact your unit sports representative. For more information about this event, contact Lieutenant Lindstrand at 536-4547.

## AF Academy rallies late to win opener

By Wayne Amann

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

For more than three quarters Air Force was, arguably, "sleepless in Seattle." The Falcons trailed the Washington Huskies, 17-6, nearly five minutes into the fourth quarter and needed a wake-up call in their 50th season opener.

They got it from backup quarterback Adam Fitch.

Less than one minute after Washington built its 11-point lead, the senior signal caller replaced sophomore starter Shaun Carney for the second time in the game to direct offensive coordinator Chuck Petersen's no-huddle attack. Four plays later, Fitch found wide receiver Greg Kirkwood behind two defenders down the right sideline for an eyebrow-raising 84-yard touchdown strike, the fourth longest in Academy history.

Air Force refused to hit the snooze button.

A re-energized Falcon defense stalled Washington at its own 48-yard line, forcing a punt down to the Air Force 17 with 5:55 left in the game. Carney returned to engineer a 14-play drive, capped by a one-yard quarterback keeper with 34 seconds left, for an exciting come-from-behind, 20-17, win Saturday at Qwest Field.

"You can never rule a Falcon out," Air Force head coach Fisher DeBerry said. "Rallying from 11 points down and making the plays we had to make, I can't say enough about the character on this team."

The Falcon's offense struggled with adversity in the first half thanks to fumbles that killed two drives deep in Huskies territory, but defense prevailed and the teams were tied 3-3 at halftime.

Washington's offense controlled the tempo for two touchdown drives in the second half. One resulted in a 1-yard scoring run by fullback James Sims midway through the third quarter, while the other ended with a 27-yard touchdown pass from Isaiah Stanback to Cody Ellis with 10:43 left in the fourth.

Kirkwood's momentum-swinging touchdown catch was one of his game-high six receptions for 134 yards, which more than made up for the kickoff he bobbled out of bounds at the one-yard line four plays earlier. "It was a perfect ball," Kirkwood said. "(Fitch) put it where only I could get to it in stride."



Photo by 2nd Lt. John Ross

Air Force Academy Falcon wide receiver Jason Brown makes a leaping catch at the University of Washington 2-yard line. The Cadets defeated the Huskies in the season opener for both teams, 20-17.

**SAFE DRIVING REMINDER**

PLEASE DO NOT SPEED AND OBEY ALL TRAFFIC LAWS